

**Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Natural Resource Commission**

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**ITEM**

**15**

**DECISION**

**TOPIC**      FY2008 Water Trail Grants

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The Iowa DNR Water Trails program was developed to support linear, on-water trail projects on Iowa waterways. The Department received 10 applications requesting \$72,844. The Department's annual water trails budget is \$50,000; \$11,181 was returned from FY07. The recommended state fiscal year 2008 awards, totaling \$61,181, as determined by scoring committee members including three Department staff and two Iowa citizens, are as follows:

<b>Water Trail</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Funding recommendation</b>
Maquoketa River Water Trail - Jackson County	Jackson CCB	\$6,560
Maquoketa River Water Trail – Mon-Maq Dam to Pictured Rocks	Jones CCB	\$5,000
Odessa Water Trail	Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation	\$5,962
Bends and Beaches; Lower Wapsipinicon Water Trail	Clinton CCB	\$9,512
Middle/South Raccoon River Water Trail	Dallas CCB	\$13,776
Wapsipinicon River Water Trail	Bremer CCB	\$10,379
Yellow Banks Watercraft Campground	Polk CCB	\$4,485
Skunk River Water Trail	Polk CCB	\$5,507

The Department recommends entering into grant agreements with the above-mentioned parties to accomplish the projects identified in their respective applications.

Ken Herring  
Division Administrator  
Conservation and Recreation Division

March 8, 2007

## Fiscal Year 2008 Iowa DNR Water Trail Grant Applications

Water Trail	Sponsor	Scoring Committee Rank	Funding recommendation
Maquoketa River Water Trail - Jackson County	Jackson CCB	1	\$6,560
Maquoketa River Water Trail - Mon Maq Dam to Pictured Rocks	Jones CCB	2	\$5,000
Odessa Water Trail	Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation	3	\$5,962
Bends and Beaches; Lower Wapsipinicon Water Trail	Clinton CCB	4	\$9,512
Middle/South Raccoon River Water Trail	Dallas CCB	5	\$13,776
Wapsipinicon River Water Trail	Bremer CCB	6	\$9,134
Yellow Banks Watercraft Campground	Polk CCB	7	\$4,485
Skunk River Water Trail	Polk CCB	8	\$5,507

**Total miles of water trail developed:** 253.5

**Total DNR funds awarded:** \$61,181

**Total amount to be leveraged (local/federal):** \$283,565

**Project: Maquoketa River Water Trail - Jackson County**

Applicant: Jackson CCB

18670 63<sup>rd</sup> Street

Maquoketa, IA 52060

Amount: \$6,560

Description: This project is part of both an Iowa Great Places project and a segment of a planned multi-county water trail on the Maquoketa River. It includes a portage path around and hydro dam facility, and proposes to make a canoe livery a more viable business through marketing of the water trail, as well as spread recreational impacts from the Picture Rocks section.

**Project: Maquoketa River Water Trail - Mon Maq Dam to Pictured Rocks, Jones County**

Applicant: Jones CCB

Larry Gullett

12515 Central Park Road

Center Junction, IA 52212

Amount: \$5,000

Description: This project focuses on a highly popular section of water trail in Jones County, and will assist people with disabilities access a 7-mile portion of river with both a launch and a landing. It also addresses user impact issues, and will create a portage trail around the Mon-Maq dam.

**Project: Odessa Water Trail – Louisa County**

Applicant: Tri-Rivers Conservation Foundation  
Mallory Smith  
12635 Co Rd G56/PO Box 123  
Wapello, IA 52653

Amount: \$5,962

Description: This water trail will help canoeists and kayakers navigate an inter-connected and swamp-like set of ponds, chutes, and a large lake, all former backwaters for the Mississippi River in Louisa County. Funds will be used for signage and promotional materials. Wildlife viewing opportunities are rich. Signage is a critical component for minimizing confusion.

**Project: Bends and Beaches, Lower Wapsipinicon Water Trail – Clinton/Scott/Cedar counties**

Applicant: Clinton CCB  
Chuck Jacobsen  
2308 255<sup>th</sup> Street  
Grand Mound, IA 52751

Amount: \$9,512

Description: This project will establish signage and be used to develop low-impact canoe accesses. The Wapsipinicon River Water Trail is expected to become one of Iowa's longest. This segment on the mouth of the Wapsipinicon is a three county effort encompassing vast bottomlands of floodplain woods, along with an environmental education center, numerous accesses, and wildness near urban areas such as Clinton and the Quad Cities.

**Project: Middle/South Raccoon River Water Trail – Guthrie/Dallas counties**

Applicant: Dallas CCB  
Mike Wallace  
14581 K Ave.  
Perry, IA 50220

Amount: \$13,776

Description: This two-county joint project will allow for signage and brochures on one of central Iowa's most popular river segments. The Middle Raccoon in this segment is a protected water area. Both stretches flows through a glacial moraine area and is served by two canoe & kayak liveries.

**Project: Wapsipinicon River Water Trail – Bremer/Black Hawk counties**

Applicant: Bremer CCB  
Frank Frederick  
1104 South Main  
Tripoli, IA 50676

Amount: \$10,379

Description: This project will flow through a Protected Water Area and serve as the headwaters for an overall Wapsipinicon River Water Trail. Bluffs and areas dominated by native river birch, along with long tracts of public land, are expected to be key features of this wilderness-oriented water trail.

**Project: Yellow Banks Watercraft Campground – Polk County**

Applicant: Polk CCB  
Loren Lown  
11407 NW Jester Park Drive  
Granger, IA 50109

Amount: \$4,485

Description: This project will fund a water-access campground that will supplement the overall Des Moines River Water Trail through Polk County, providing an overnight stopover at Yellow Banks Park. The area is near an existing boat ramp and restroom facility in an otherwise remote spot expected to be attractive to canoeists, kayakers, anglers, and powerboaters.

**Project: Skunk River Water Trail – Polk County**

Applicant: Polk CCB

Loren Lown

11407 NW Jester Park Drive

Granger, IA 50109

Amount: \$5,507

Description: This project will fund a 13.5-mile extension of Story County's Skunk River Water Trail by creating a low-impact water access and primitive camping area, along with accompanying signage.